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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In re	Case No.
Michael S. Jones)	Crim. No
On Habeas Corpus)	Ventura County Superior Court Case No. CR24985
	Str

PETITION FOR REVIEW

After the Decision of the Court of Appeal Second Appellate District Filed: 4-9, 2007

Michael S. Jones #E-40401 Correctional Training Facility P.O. Box 689 (G-319) Soledad, CA 93960-0689

Petitioner - In Pro Per

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ARGUMENT

HIS THE GOVERNOR DEPRIVED PETITIONER OF FEDERALLY PROTECTED LIBERTY INTEREST AND VIOLATED HIS 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENT CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS WHEN HE REVERSED PETITIONER'S PAROLE GRANT WITHOUT ANY RELIABLE EVIDENCE DEMONSTRATING PETITIONER CURRENTLY ENDANGERS PUBLIC SAFETY BASED ON THE UNCHANGING FACIS OF THE OFFENSE, AFTER IGNORING THE EVIDENCE OF HIS REHABILITATION PROGRAMMING AND CONTINUED EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR WHILE IN PRISON.

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In re) Case No.
Michael S. Jones	Crim. No
On Habeas Corpus	Ventura County Superior Court Case No. CR24985

PETITION FOR REVIEW

TO THE HONORABLE RONALD M. GEORGE, CHIEF JUSTICE, AND TO THE HONORABLE ASSOCIATE JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Petitioner Michael Jones petitions this court for review following the decision of the Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, filed in that Court on $\frac{2}{1-1}$, 2007. A copy of the opinion of the Court of Appeal is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- 1. Can the Governor deprive a prisoner of their federally protected liberty interest by denying parole based on the immutable facts of a 17 plus year old commitment offense whose crime factors reflect the minimum necessary to support conviction, when the prisoner has been disciplinary free for an extended period, has participated in rehabilitation type programs while in prison, has an over all positive program, minimal or no criminal conduct (convictions) of an assaualtive or any nature, and positive CDCR Counselor and psychological evaluations?
- 2. Does the State's denial of parole release to 99%+ of appearing

inmates over the past fifteen years reflect both a constitutional application of Penal Code §3041, subsections (a) and (b), and conformity with this Court's standard in <u>In re Rosenkrantz</u> (2002) 29 Cal.4th 616, 683, that the Board shall normally grant parole on an overall basis?

NECESSITY FOR REVIEW

A grant of review and resolution of these issues by this court are necessary to secure uniformity of decision and to settle important questions of law. The need for uniformity of decisions is demonstrated by comparison of this case with those wherein the crime circumstances such as the instant second-degree murder crime fails to provide the necessary evidence to support parole denial in light of the minimally necessary standard, precluding its support 'parole' denial decision. to respectfully submits that viewing the below case decisions for more grave offenses with his crime factors demonstrates the lack of uniformity in application of the due process standard depriving Petitioner of his federally protected liberty interest. See In re Lee (2006) 143 Cal.App.4th 140; In re Weider (2006) 145 Cal.App.4th 570; In re Elkins (2006) 144 Cal.App.4th 475. case also provides this Court with an opportunity to determine if by denying parole release to approximately 99% of appearing inmates over the past decade the state is normally granting parole release as required by In re Rosenkrantz, supra, 29 Cal.4th at 683 and the California parole scheme, or does the denial of parole percentage during that period of time mathematically reflect a factual historical bias against parole depriving appearing inmates

of a federally protected liberty interest.

In sum, Petitioner respectfully submits, that given the passage of time in this case, "some evidence' having the necessary state and federal indicia of reliability cannot support the Governor's offense findings in this matter as required by the United States Constitution, Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments, the California Constitution, Article I, Section 15, and applicable state and federal case rulings, given the minimum circumstances of the instant offense.

ARGUMENT I

THE GOVERNOR DEPRIVED PETITIONER OF HIS FEDERALLY PROTECTED LIBERTY INTEREST AND VIOLATED HIS 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENT CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS WHEN HE REVERSED PETITIONER'S PAROLE GRANT WITHOUT ANY RELIABLE EVIDENCE DEMONSTRATING PETITIONER CURRENTLY ENDANGERS PUBLIC SAFETY BASED ON THE UNCHANGING FACTS OF THE OFFENSE, AFTER IGNORING THE EVIDENCE OF HIS REHABILITATION PROGRAMMING AND CONTINUED EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR WHILE IN PRISON.

A. Introduction

On May 1, 2006, Petitioner appeared before the Board of Parole hearings (BPH) for the fourth time, was found suitable for parole, and his term was computed. On September 28, 2006, the Governor reversed that decision, and denied parole to Petitioner based on the unchanging circumstances of his offense. On January 30, 2007, Petitioner field a petition for writ of habeas corpus in the Venutra County Superior Court, case number CR24985. On February 27, 2007, the Superior Court summarily denied that petition, without providing a reasoned decision. (See Exhibit B.)

In 1989, Petitioner was convicted of second-degree murder.

An argument ensued over noise caused by a late night party at the house, Petitioner shot and killed his roommate Thomas Day.

The type of wounds suffered by the victim clearly demonstrates death was almost instantaneous. However, the Governor noted his belief that Petitioner "Committed an exceptionally callous second-degree murder demonstrating an exceptionally callous disregard for human suffering, because he fled the scene," and on that basis denied parole.

Petitioner has been disciplinary free for 17 years, earned his G.E.D., Completed Vocational Training, and College, has a favorable psychological report, has parole plans, and has attended AA. Petitioner also has CDC Psychological Evaluation Report findings that if released to the community he has a "low" violence potential. Petitioner uniform term is a Cal.Regs., tit. 15, \$2403(c) 17-18-19 versus the twenty (16+ actual plus 5 credit years) he has served on his life term.

A review of the factors in this case will also show the Governor effected his denial result by declaring factual evidence not in record to support his contentions and by relying on baseless allegations which do not demonstrate that petitioner is currently an unreasonable threat to public safety if released.

The details of this case are more fully developed in the appellate writ which this court reviewed as a matter of procedure as defined in the California Rules of Court.

B. The Governor's Decision to Deny Parole was not Supported by "Some Evidence" Having An Indicia of Reliability Given the Passage of Time Since the Crime Occurred.

In <u>Biggs v. Terhune</u>, supra, at p.914, a case with substantially more egregious situational factors and a prison record analogous to this Petitioner's, the court cited Greenholtz v. Nebraska Penal

Inmates (1979) 442 U.S. 1, 7, and McQuillion v. Duncan (9th Cir. 2002) 306 F.3d 895, 903, and held that "[b]ecause the "California parole scheme [Penal Code § 3041(b)] vests in every inmate a constitutionally protected liberty interest" and then held "protected by the procedural safeguards of the Due Process Clause," "some evidence" have an indicia of reliability must underlay every Board [or Governor's] decision, citing Jancsek v. Oregon Board of Parole (9th Cir. 1987) 833 F.2d 1389.

Numerous state and federal decisions have recently held that when a prisoner such as Petitioner has behaved in a disciplinary free manner over a long term, in this case over 17 years, a Board [or Governor's] finding denying parole based on the immutable facts of the prisoner's criminal conduct or prior history would be devoid of evidence, since the predictive value of these factors become nil if prisoner has demonstrated the rehabilitation and remained disciplinary free for an extended period, as in this case. See In re Lee, supra; In re Elkins, supra; Sanchez v. Kane (C.D. Cal 2006) 444 F.Supp.2d 1049; Rosenkrantz v. Marshall (C.D. Cal. 2006) 444 F.Supp.2d 1063. Case substantially more violent crimes than that committed by Petitioner.

Petitioner therefore respectfully submits that in accordance with these recently announced federal due process standards, given his seventeen (17) years of disciplinary free prison performance, his on-going positive programming, the substantially lesser gravity of his offense, and his lack of a previous criminal history, the immutable facts of his crime cannot provide the some evidence

needed to support a parole denial decision. Therefore, the Governor's reliance on the gravity of his offense from over seventeen (17) years past to deny parole is completely contrary to the evidence before the Governor, thus his findings and decisions were without any reasoned factual basis, i.e. devoid of evidence, and as a result were arbitrary and capricious, depriving Petitioner of his state and federal right to due process.

C. The State Parole Authority Mathematically Demonstrates Systematic Bias In Their Decision Making Process by Denying Parole to Over 99%+ of Appearing Inmates.

Petitioner respectfully a review of a statistical data, which can be obtained and provided upon authorized discovery, will State routinely denies parole release demonstrate the t.o approximately 99%+ of appearing inmates contrary to this Court's holding in In re Rosenkrantz, supra, 29 Cal.4th at 683, and contrary to the standard initially noted in Biggs v. Terhune, supra, at 916-917. Further, Petitioner submits a detailed review of case record history will show the state routinely declares the offenses committed by approximately 99%+ of inmates denied parole as having been carried out in an "especially heinous, atrocious, or cruel." i.e. particular egregious manner, or by equivalent wording, regardless of the circumstances of the crime. It is impossible for 99% of crimes committed which carry an indeterminate sentence to be particularly, especially the offense in this case. (See In re Ernest Smith (2003) 114 Cal.App.4th 343 holding that in California parole is the rule, i.e. the norm, and not the exception; and that only especially grave, i.e.

particularly egregious, crimes can be used to support a parole denial decision. See <u>In re Rosenkrantz</u>, <u>supra</u>, 29 Cal.4th holding a "particularly egregious" crime is one with elements of a more serious crime <u>not</u> found by a jury. Factors not present or applicable in this case.

CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Petitioner requests this Court grant review.

Date: 4-13, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Michael S Jones, Petitioner, In Pro Per

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT DIVISION: 6

DATE: April 9, 2007

Michael S Jones E-40401 Correctional Training Facility P.O. Box 686 (GW-319) Soledad, CA 93960

IN RE MICHAEL S. JONES, ON

HABEAS CORPUS.

B197593 Ventura County No. CR24985

THE COURT:

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF VENTURA

CLERK: CAROL HENRY BAILIFF: CASE NO: CR24985 TYPE OF CASE: In re the Matter of MICHAEL SCOTT JONES, Petitioner for Writ of Habeas Corpus	JUDGE: JAMES P. CLONIN	GER DATE: Februar	y 27, 2007 TII	ME:	
In re the Matter of MICHAEL SCOTT JONES, Petitioner	CLERK: CAROL HENRY	BAILIFF:	CASE I	NO: <u>CR24985</u>	
In re the Matter of MICHAEL SCOTT JONES, Petitioner					
MICHAEL SCOTT JONES, Petitioner	TYPE OF CASE:				
	In re the Matter of				
for Writ of Habeas Corpus	MICHAEL SCOTT JO	NES, Petitioner			
	for Writ of Hab	eas Corpus			•

The decision by the Governor to overrule the Board's setting of a parole date for the petitioner is one with which reasonable people may differ. The petitioner has an unusually good record in prison and has made, as the Governor noted, "creditable gains."

The Governor's determination is, however, supported by some evidence and it appears to the court that he considered the appropriate factors. It is not the court's role to substitute its judgment for that of the Governor or the Board.

The petition for the writ of habeas corpus is denied.

Dated: February 27, 2007

JAMES P. CLONINGER

Judge of the Superior Court

MICHAEL D. PLANET, Superior Court Executive Officer and Clerk.

NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS: WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS DENIED

Deputy Clerk

MINUTES

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF VENTURA

CASE NO.: CR24985 In the Matter of Michael Scott Jones, Petitioner

I am employed in the County of Ventura, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the above-entitled action. My business address is 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009. On February 28, 2007, I served the following document described as:

WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS DENIEDI

by placing a true copy thereof for collection and mailing so as to cause it to be mailed on the above date. following standard court practices, in sealed envelopes addressed as follows:

Michael S. Jones - #E-40401 Correctional Training Facility PO Box 689 (GW-319) Soledad, CA 93960-0689

Office of the District Attorney Brown Mail #2730 Writ Department

I am "readily familiar" with the County's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. postal service and/or interoffice mail on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid at Ventura, California in the ordinary course of business.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Dated and executed at Ventura, California on February 28, 2007.

MICHAEL D. PLANET, Superior Court Executive Officer and Clerk

Dastarro

DECLARATION OF MAILING

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL BY PERSON IN STATE CUSTODY (C.C.P §§ 1013(A), 2015.5)

Case Name: MICHAEL S. JONES v. ARNOLD SCHWARENEGGER, GOVERNOR

I, Lance Van Hook, delcare:

I am over 18 years of age and I am not a party to this action. I am a resident of Correctional Training Facility prison, in the County of Monterey, State of California. My prison address is:

Lance Van Hook #E-08434 Corectional Training Facility P.O. Box 689 (Y-205L) Soledad, CA 93960-0689

On 4-13, 2007, I served the attached:

Petition For Review With Exhibts Attached Thereto.

on the parties herein by placing true and correct copies thereof, enclosed in a sealed envelope (verified by prison staff) with postage paid thereon fully paid, in the United States Mail in a deposit box so provided at the above-named institution in which I am presently confined. The envelope was addressed as follows:

Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General 300 South Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90013 California Court of Appeals Second Appellate District 200 E. Santa Clara St. Vebtura, CA 93001

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on $\frac{L}{-13}$, 2007.

Lance Van Hook, Declarant

***** FILE COPY ******

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT DIVISION: 6

DATE: April 9, 2007

Superior Court County of Ventura 800 S. Victoria Ave. Ventura, CA 93009

IN RE MICHAEL S. JONES, ON

HABEAS CORPUS.

B197593 Ventura County No. CR24985

THE COURT:

** FILE COPY ********

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT DIVISION: 6

DATE: April 9, 2007

Office of the District Attorney ATTN: WRIT DIVISION 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

IN RE MICHAEL S. JONES, ON

HABEAS CORPUS.

B197593 Ventura County No. CR24985

THE COURT:

******* FILE COPY ********

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT DIVISION: 6

DATE: April 9, 2007

Office of the Attorney General 300 South Spring Street Fifth Floor, North Tower Los Angeles, CA 90013

IN RE MICHAEL S. JONES, ON

HABEAS CORPUS.

B197593 Ventura County No. CR24985

THE COURT:

***** FILE COPY ****

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT DIVISION: 6

DATE: April 9, 2007

Michael S Jones E-40401 Correctional Training Facility P.O. Box 686 (GW-319) Soledad, CA 93960

IN RE MICHAEL S. JONES, ON

HABEAS CORPUS.

B197593 Ventura County No. CR24985

THE COURT: